

REMARKS

Reconsideration and allowance of the subject application are respectfully solicited.

Claims 1 through 4, 13 through 27, and 36 through 57 are pending, with Claims 1, 24, 43, 53, 54, 55, 56, and 57 being independent. Claims 1, 24, 43, and 53 through 57 have been amended.

The Official Action makes reference to Applicants' "acknowledgement" of the provisional obviousness-type double patenting rejection over (a) Claims 3 and 5 through 29 of Application No. 09/662,072 and (b) Claim 8 of Application No. 09/664,165. In response, Applicants respectfully submit that they traversed the rejection, and requested that same be held in abeyance until issuance of one of the subject application and the copending application. See MPEP 804.

Claim 1 was objected to for informalities, and has been amended as kindly suggested in the Official Action.

Claims 54 through 57 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, 1st paragraph, as being "single means claims". All rejections are respectfully traversed, and are submitted to have been obviated by the amendment of those claims in a manner earnestly believed by Applicants to avoid the grounds of rejection.

Claims 54 through 57 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) over U.S. Patent No. 6,415,329 B1 (Gelman, et al.). All rejections are respectfully traversed.

Claims 54 through 57 variously recite, inter alia, setting a TCP Option in a TCP packet in accordance with the IP address (Claims 54 and 55) or the TCP port number (Claims 56 and 57), wherein the TCP Option is TCP Maximum Segment Size.

However, Applicants respectfully submit that Gelman, et al. fails to disclose or suggest at least the above-discussed claimed features as recited, inter alia, in Claims 54 through 57. The Official Action cites to Gelman, et al.'s col. 4, lines 5 through 31. Applicants respectfully note that said section of Gelman, et al. discloses, e.g., a SNAT module, and changing of IP address and TCP port and checksums, but that said section is completely silent as to the above-discussed claimed features, and that the remainder of Gelman, et al. is likewise deficient. Applicants further respectfully submit that there has been no showing of any indication of motivation in the cited documents that would lead one having ordinary skill in the art to arrive at such claimed features.

Claims 1 through 4, 13 through 27, and 36 through 53 were variously rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 over U.S. Patent No. 5,958,053 (Denker), 6,182,226 B1 (Reid, et al.), 6,850,512 B1 (Bishop, et al.), 6,452,915 B1 (Jorgensen), and Official Notice. All rejections are respectfully traversed.

Claims 1 and 24 variously recite, inter alia, that the transport level spoofing comprises sending a transport level ACK to spoof receipt of data, and that at least one of the following conditions is satisfied: (1) in the case that the selective spoofing unit (Claim 1) or step (Claim 24) has decided to perform transport level spoofing on the transport level connection (in accordance with the determination of what application is using the transport level connection), a TCP Option, TCP Maximum Segment Size, is set in accordance with the determination of what application is using the transport level connection; (2) in the case that the selective spoofing unit (Claim 1) or step (Claim 24) has decided to perform transport level spoofing on the transport level connection (in accordance with the determination of what application is using the transport level

connection), a three-way handshake parameter is set in accordance with the determination of what application is using the transport level connection; and (3) in the case that the selective spoofing unit has decided to perform transport level spoofing on the transport level connection (in accordance with the determination of what application is using the transport level connection), connection priority is set in accordance with the determination of what application is using the transport level connection.

Claims 43 and 53 variously recite, inter alia, that the transport level spoofing comprises sending a transport level ACK to spoof receipt of data, and that at least one of the following conditions is satisfied: (1) in the case that the selective spoofing unit (Claim 43) or step (Claim 53) has decided to perform transport level spoofing on the transport level connection (in accordance with at least one field in a packet received by the apparatus), a TCP Option, TCP Maximum Segment Size, is set in accordance with the at least one field; (2) in the case that the selective spoofing unit (Claim 43) or step (Claim 53) has decided to perform transport level spoofing on the transport level connection, a three-way handshake parameter is set in accordance with the at least one field; and (3) in the case that the selective spoofing unit (Claim 43) or step (Claim 53) has decided to perform transport level spoofing on the transport level connection, connection priority is set in accordance with the at least one field.

However, Applicants respectfully submit that none of Denker, Reid, et al., Bishop, et al., Jorgensen, and Official Notice, even in the proposed combinations, assuming, arguendo, that such could be combined, discloses or suggests at least the above-discussed claimed combinations of features as recited, inter alia, in Claims 1, 24, 43, and 53. The Official Action asserts that Denker shows the claimed features;

however, Applicants have carefully reviewed the sections of Denker relied upon in the Official Action and respectfully submit that neither said sections nor the remainder of Denker nor the other applied documents provide any disclosure or suggestion of at least the above-discussed claimed features. In addition, the Official Notice is respectfully traversed in the absence of a cited reference. MPEP 2144.03.

Furthermore, Applicants respectfully submit that there has been no showing of any indication of motivation in the relied upon material that would lead one having ordinary skill in the art to arrive at the above-discussed claimed features.

The dependent claims are also submitted to be patentable because they set forth additional aspects of the present invention and are dependent from independent claims discussed above. Therefore, separate and individual consideration of each dependent claim is respectfully requested.

REQUEST FOR ENTRY OF AMENDMENT

This Amendment After Final Rejection is an earnest attempt to advance prosecution and reduce the number of issues, and is believed to clearly place this application in condition for allowance. Furthermore, Applicants respectfully submit that a full appreciation of these amendments will not require undue time or effort given the Examiner's familiarity with this application. Moreover, this Amendment was not earlier presented because Applicants earnestly believed that the prior Amendment placed the subject application in condition for allowance. Accordingly, entry of this Amendment under 37 C.F.R. § 1.116 is respectfully requested.

PATENT
Attorney Docket No.: PD-990184A
Customer No.: 29190

REQUEST FOR INTERVIEW

If any questions remain, Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner contact Applicants' undersigned representative, Craig L. Plastrik, at (301) 601-7252 to schedule a personal interview. Favorable consideration in this regard is earnestly solicited.

CONCLUSION

Applicants submit that this application is in condition for allowance, and a Notice of Allowance is respectfully requested.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached at (301) 601-7252. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below-listed address.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'C. Plastrik', followed by the date '6-27-05'.

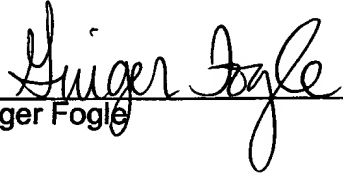
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